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SECESSION OF PANAMA WAS ENGINEERED FROM WASHINGTON

**President Roosevelt and Government Officials
Practically Confess Having Had a Finger in
the Troubles Between Colombia and
Panama.**

**The Treaty Which Has Been in Negotiation for the Past
Year Has Finally Been Arranged and Signed and Will
Now Go Before the Senate for Ratification—The Senate,
However, May Decline to Ratify—Money and Valuable
Concessions are Made to Colombia.**

Washington, Dec. 18.—President Roosevelt and the United States government, after four years of vehement denial, have virtually confessed that the secession of Panama from Colombia was prearranged and dominated by agents of the administration.

The reluctant admission comes in the nature of a tripartite treaty by which Colombia is to receive American gold for the loss of Panama and be given valuable concessions. Such action clearly demonstrates that the revolution on the isthmus was inspired and encouraged from this city.

The protocol of a tripartite treaty has been arranged and signed. In it Colombia agrees to relinquish all claim to the isthmus of Panama; Panama agrees to pay Colombia the approximate sum of \$800,000 for the loss sustained and the United States agrees to permit Colombia to transport her troops and armaments of war across the isthmus on precisely the same footing as those of Panama.

The treaty has been in active process of negotiation for nearly a

year. It was desired to restore friendly relations among the three republics concerned. Colombia insisted that the United States should pay \$5,000,000 for the damages inflicted by the revolution. This demand was subsequently reduced to \$4,000,000.

A payment of this character was pronounced impossible by the state department officials because it would be equivalent to serving notice on the entire world that the United States had deliberately stolen Panama. As a compromise, it was decided to give Colombia as a quid pro quo the right to move her troops and military stores across the isthmus on the same footing as is reserved to this government and Panama. This was a concession of vast importance to Colombia. It was equal to a large money payment.

Colombia has for years been apprehensive of war with Peru, Ecuador or Chili. In such an emergency that court would be helpless unless her troops could be speedily transported across the isthmus and early hostilities instituted. All

anxiety for the future is removed by the granting of this unusual and almost priceless privilege by the United States.

As the United States absolutely controls Panama having guaranteed the integrity of the republic in a treaty it was decided that whatever cash payment went to Colombia should be paid by Panama, thus lessening the probability of drastic criticism and at the same time lowering the amount. The figures were gradually scaled down until the approximate sum of \$800,000 was fixed.

An agreement for the payment of this money must be made in a specified treaty between Panama and Colombia, which is now being arranged. The amount may be increased or lessened by the diplomatic haggling in progress.

It was expected that the protocol signed between the United States and Colombia by which the transportation of troops and munitions of war is permitted across the isthmus would be sent to the senate yesterday. At the last minute it was determined advisable to hold this convention at the state department until the formal treaty has been prepared and signed between Colombia and Panama. It is understood the protocol will not be sent to the senate until this has been accomplished.

There is a well founded belief that in view of all the circumstances the treaty may fail of approval by the senate. The Democrats have been almost unanimous in opposing the methods utilized by this government in securing control of Panama and the canal zone concession. The addition of two senators from Oklahoma will enable the Democrats to antagonize successfully almost any proposition.

The payment of money to Colombia by Panama for the secession of that state is in no sense a voluntary act. It is being made compulsory by this government. No matter what sum is fixed as compensation to Colombia, the United States virtually pays the amount. Congress appropriated \$10,000,000 which was paid Panama for the canal zone. The payment to Colombia will be made from this sum a part of which is still held in trust by New York bankers and invested for the benefit of Panama.

William Nelson Cromwell, general counsel for the government of Panama, has carefully supervised the drawing of the various protocols and is seeking to have the

amount which his client must give Colombia reduced to the lowest possible minimum.

ATTEMPTED TO KILL HIS 18-YEAR-OLD BRIDE

Barberton, O., Dec. 18.—John Wilson is in jail charged with trying to kill his 18-year-old bride. She has a dangerous bullet wound in her body. The shooting followed a quarrel.

BULLS HAVE A PICNIC

**Price of May Wheat Goes to
\$1.07—Bears Forced to
Buy Heavily.**

Chicago, Dec. 18.—The bulls had a picnic in the wheat pit today. They shot the price of May product to \$1.07 bushel and forced the "bears" to help the movement by buying to cover their short interests.

J. Brandt Walker, of Wall Street, was credited with being one of the heaviest short buyers and pit gossip had it that he has been "stung." Armour brokers were also buying heavily to protect their short interests. J. Patten and Bartlett, Frazier and the Carrington crowd were the leading "bull" movement. They now hold 10,000,000 bushels of May.

Heavy buying for export was the feature.

CASHIER DROWNS

**Bank is Closed Pending an
Investigation of the
Books.**

North Attleboro, Mass., Dec. 18.—Directors of the Jewelers' National bank ordered that institution closed today, pending an investigation of circumstances surrounding the death of its vice president and cashier, Frederick E. Sargent, who was found last night drowned in his bath tub. Following the meeting of the directors today, this notice was tacked on the bank's doors.

"This bank is closed pending an investigation of affairs, per order of the board of directors."

The bank's capital is \$700,000; deposits, \$1,050,000; loans, \$917,750, according to the last bank report.

President Wiggins who lives in New York, made the statement today that Sargent had exceeded his authority and made large loans to concerns in which he was interested.

SNOW AND ICE SLIDE BROKE WIRES TO GOLDFIELD

Goldfield, Nev., Dec. 18.—Repair parties returning from lines of the electric power plant, today dispelled all fear that cutting off of the light and power lines was result of any plot. They found breaks in the wires, the result of an ice and snow slide in the White Mountains.

GUS RINGLING DIES IN NEW ORLEANS

New Orleans, La., Dec. 18.—Gus Ringling, head of the greatest circus combination in the world, controlling Barnum and Bailey, Forepaugh and Sells and the Ringling Brothers circuses, died here this morning of acute Bright's disease.

LORAIN MERCHANT IS SHOT BY ROBBERS

Lorain, O., Dec. 18.—J. M. Domiski, a dry goods merchant, died today. He was shot by two men who entered his store, apparently to rob. Domiski ran when the men entered and one shot the merchant. Two youths are under arrest.

ACCOMPLICE IS ARRESTED

**Girl's Lover Gave Her the
Poison and Told Her How
to Use It.**

Circleville, O., Dec. 18.—Following the arrest of Emma May Arlage, aged 15, who is charged with having attempted to poison her mother, by putting carbolic acid in her tea, Harness Yoakum, aged 21, has been arrested on information given by the girl to the effect that he gave her the poison and told her how to use it. Yoakum was the girl's sweetheart, and was strongly opposed by the girl's mother.

After the mother's death, the young couple were to have run away and been married.

CUBA NOW HAS A POPULATION OF 2,028,282

Washington, Dec. 18.—A rough count of the census of Cuba was compiled to the war department by Governor Magoon today, showing the total population of the island to be 2,028,282.

The increase for the whole island is 29 per cent since the census of 1899.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Both Secretary of the Navy Mearns and Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou, who are suffering from grip, are reported improved today.

PLAN TO SEND GROVER CLEVELAND TO DENVER

**Anti-Bryanites Among the Financial Interests in New
York and Throughout the East Start a Scheme to
Make the Former President the Nominee of the
Denver Convention.**

New York, Dec. 18.—A movement is on foot to send former President Grover Cleveland to the Denver convention as one of New Jersey's delegates at large. Behind the announcement is said to be an anti-Bryan plot.

Wall Street and eastern financial interests are still opposed to Bryan's nomination. Cleveland's well known hostility to Bryan is figured to make him the leader of the anti-Bryan movement in the convention. Some backers of the scheme, see in it a chance to stampede the convention for Cleveland, as only the Democrat who has led the party to victory since the civil war. If nominated, they say Cleveland would be forced to accept.

MINERS AND OPERATORS WILL CONFER, TOMORROW

**Question of Restoring the Old Interstate Conference Will
Probably be Definitely Determined at the Meeting and
If It is Restored There Will Probably be no Strike.**

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 18.—At the meeting here tomorrow, operators and miners in the central competitive district, comprising Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky, Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, will decide whether to restore the interstate conference, to agree on wage scales and working conditions.

Two years ago the conference agreement was ended, the miners and operators not being able to get here. President Mitchell advocated agreements by states and this was adopted. Vice President Lewis favored a strike. State agreements were made for two years. Now these expire and the question of restoring the general agreement arises.

The miners are strongly in favor of restoring the arrangement and if an agreement is not reached the chances are ninety per cent to ward off all possibility of a strike after April 1. At that time both the bituminous and anthracite contracts expire, and the miners' organization is in a position to tie up the industry of the country. For the last two contracts, the miners have accepted reductions and made concessions and now the miners want an increase in wages.

TAFT MEN SURE TO GET AN EARLY CONVENTION

**Manager Vorys, Chairman Brown and Some Members of
the State Committee Hold a Conference in Columbus
and Decide to Hold the Convention in February,
Probably During the Second Week.**

Columbus, O., Dec. 18.—An early Republican state convention is now practically a certainty. It will be in February, probably the second week.

This was developed in a conference between A. I. Vorys, the Taft manager and chairman Walter Brown of the Republican central committee. Since the call has been issued for the national convention an effort has been made to get in touch with members of the state central committee. Enough of them have declared for the early convention to assure the success of the plan.

Senator N. F. Overturn of Delaware and Daniel W. Allampan of Dayton, members of the state committee, were also here in consultation with Chairman Brown and Vorys and approved the plan of the Taft leaders.

Chairman Brown arrived yesterday morning and intended to return to Toledo last night. At the request of Vorys he remained in the city that the Taft leaders might further consider the work of organization.

The action of the Republican state committee of Missouri in St. Louis of setting the date for the state convention at Feb. 27 will require the Ohio convention to be held at an earlier date if Taft's state is to be the first to instruct its delegates to the national convention to work and vote for the nomination of the war secretary.

JAIL IS GUARDED

**Mob Threatens to Lynch
Man Who Attempted
an Assault.**

Greenville, Pa., Dec. 18.—A strong force of armed guards is protecting the local jail, fearing that a mob will try to lynch Charles Summers, of Turnersville, held for an attempted assault of Miss Maude McCreath, a teacher at

DISPOSED OF "PEACHER" IN VERY SHORT ORDER

Hartselle, Ala., Dec. 18.—News has just reached here of the killing of William Romine by Henry Ferguson at Somerville yesterday. It is said Ferguson had been paying attention to a young woman in the neighborhood and Romine told her parents that Ferguson had a wife and children in south Alabama.

When Ferguson heard of this he went to Romine's house, called him out and cut his throat from ear to ear.

"HE WRONGED ME, HE WRONGED ME"

**Were the Dying Words of Mrs. Katherine Smith Who
Deserted Her Family to Search for the Man She Loved
and, Failing to Find Him, Shot Herself in the
Streets of an Indiana Town.**

Gary, Ind., Dec. 18.—Mrs. Katherine Smith, weary and broken hearted in failing to find the man she loved, was found dying in the main street here, with a bullet wound in her breast, and a revolver clutched in her right hand.

The woman gave up her home in Steubenville, O., forsaking her husband and children, to find the man who had won her love. For days she searched the towns of Gary and Hammond, and yesterday she found the first trace, only to learn that her lover had left. A few hours later, a pistol shot was heard, and the woman was found dying.

CASSIE CHADWICK II SUDDENLY DISAPPEARS

**Woman Who Has Systematically Swindled and Robbed
St. Petersburg Jumps Her Bond During the Trial of
Her Case—Many Prominent Men and Women are
Left Holding the Sack.**

St. Petersburg, Dec. 18.—A sensation has been caused in this city by the flight of Olga Stein, a Russian woman who has successfully conducted a series of swindles on a large scale.

She was being tried on charges of fraud and swindling, and as she jumped her bail when she saw the trial going against her. She was charged specifically with having defrauded certain persons of \$300,000, and her operations extended over a long period.

Mrs. Stein moved in good society and was reputed to be a million-

aire. She secured loans on the strength of a pretended French inheritance and the possession of real estate in St. Petersburg. She would stoop, however, to petty swindling upon tradesmen and servants.

It is believed that she obtained in all several million rubles. The heavy losses by her operations are silent because of the fear of ridicule. She enjoyed influential protection by which she long escaped prosecution, and succeeded in intimidating the local newspapers from publishing her story.



\$7,000,000,000 IN CROPS